

Psorophora columbiae (Dyar and Knab)

OVERWINTERING STAGE: Egg.

PHENOLOGY: Multivoltine.

LARVAL HABITAT:

Larvae can be found in temporary water situations including floodwaters, temporary pools, puddles, retention ponds and drainage ditches.

HOST PREFERENCES:

Females will feed on virtually any large mammal, but cattle seem to be preferred when they are available. They are strong fliers and can travel up to eight miles in search of hosts. They can be severe human pests following heavy rains. Populations can get so dense in the southwestern United States that they have been known to kill cattle by clogging their nasal passages.

VIRUS TESTING RESULTS:

Virus	# specimens tested	# pools tested	# positive pools	MIR
WNV	975	85	0	0
EEE	0	0	0	0
La Crosse	0	0	0	0

COMMENTS:

Ps. columbiae will key to *Ps. confinnis* in some older North American keys. It is now known that *Ps. confinnis* is a South American species and the North American members of the complex are referred to as *Ps. columbiae*.

